



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210

PO Box 145801

Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

801-538-5340

801-359-3940 (Fax)

801-538-7223 (TDD)

Michael O. Leavitt
Governor

Lowell P. Braxton
Division Director

October 20, 1998

CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT
P 074 976 664

William Bown
Utah Building Stone Supply
842 West 400 North
West Bountiful, Utah 84087

Re: Initial Review of Notice of Intention to Commence Large Mining Operations, Utah Building Stone Supply, Dove Creek Quarry, M/003/016, Box Elder County, Utah

Dear Mr. Bown:

The Division has completed a review of your draft Notice of Intention to Commence Large Mining Operations for the Grouse Creek Operations, located in Box Elder County, Utah, which was received May 1, 1998. After reviewing the information, a few technical concerns remain which will need to be addressed before we can issue our tentative approval of your application. Our comments are listed below under the applicable Minerals Rule heading. Please format your response in a similar fashion.

The Division will suspend further review of the Grouse Creek Operations mine NOI until your response to this letter is received. We request that you respond to these comments by November 30, 1998. Once we have determined your application to be technically complete, we will publish a notice of tentative approval. This notice will begin a 30-day public comment period. Provided we receive no substantive public comments during this period, we will then proceed to finalize our approval of your permit application.

If you have any questions in this regard please contact me, Lynn Kunzler, or Tony Gallegos of the Minerals Staff. If you wish to arrange a meeting to sit down and discuss this review, please contact us at your earliest convenience. Thank you for your cooperation in completing this permitting action.

Sincerely,

D. Wayne Hedberg
Permit Supervisor
Minerals Regulatory Program

jb
Attachments: Review, reclamation estimate
cc: Gordon Struthers, USFS
Mary Ann Wright, DOGM
M003016.rev

**INITIAL REVIEW OF NOTICE OF INTENTION
TO COMMENCE LARGE MINING OPERATIONS**

**Utah Building Stone Supply Company
Dove Creek Operations**

M/003/016

R647-4-105 - Maps, Drawings & Photographs

Road R-G on Map 2 does not include any coding or cross hatching describing the road status which matches those shown in the map legend. Please describe the status of this road or provide a corrected version of Map 2. (AAG)

R647-4-106 - Operation Plan

106.3 Estimated acreages disturbed, reclaimed, annually.

Total area for the ^{Dove Creek} ~~Grouse Creek~~ Operations identified on page 4 indicates 14.91 acres disturbed by the operations (including roads). However, Summary 'A' table indicates 17.06 acres (by 1998). This table includes .65 acres for the Far White Quarry, 1.25 acres for the Sunshine East and West area and .25 acres for the camp areas; which were apparently omitted from the calculations on page 4. Please correct these amounts. Also, it appears that these figures do not anticipate additional acreage (over current disturbance) for production. You may wish to add a buffer so that if expansion is needed you will not need to wait for additional approvals.

Summary A, 1998 Area column appears to reflect the current amount of site disturbance for each of the named features. Please confirm that these acreage figures reflect the amount of surface disturbance proposed during the next five years of mining activities. (AAG)

Please revise Summary A to include a column identifying the acreage for each feature which will be reclaimed at the end of operations, instead of what is being proposed to be reclaimed in 1998. Please be advised that areas which are reclaimed are not immediately considered released by the Division. Reclaimed areas must ultimately satisfy a 70% revegetation success criteria (premining vegetation cover) which may require several growing seasons to achieve. (AAG)

Please revise Summary A or provide a separate summary which tabulates road length and acreage using the names shown on Map 2 such as "R-A, R-B," etc. In Summary A, under the heading of Access Roads is a road titled "Plan, USFS Improv., K 5,900." Please explain the proposed improvements and provide information to verify that the USFS will not require this road and improvements to be reclaimed. (AAG)

Roads associated with the project area involve 5.71 acres of the 17.06 acres of total project disturbance. The text identifies additional roads that are classified as public roads (shown on Map '2').

Summary 'A' identifies a total of 7.21 acres that reclamation is planned for during 1998. Once the Division verifies that reclamation of these areas is satisfactory, then that portion of the reclamation

surety for these areas could be released. A portion of the surety may be retained to cover the possible need to reseed the reclaimed areas until the revegetation success standard is achieved. (LK)

R647-4-107 - Operation Practices

107.4 Deleterious material safety stored or removed

Please note that any fuels and oils stored on-site must be stored in secondary containment structures that have a capacity of 110% of the storage container (i.e. the 500 gallon fuel tank would need to be in a secondary containment structure that has a minimum 550 gallon capacity). Please describe how fuels and oil will be stored at the site. If fuel and oils are only brought in for daily use, then please indicate this.

Please describe the types and typical volumes of fuels and lubricants to be stored on site. Please describe the typical duration of this on site storage (weeks, months, year round, etc.). (AAG)

107.6 Concurrent reclamation

See comments under R647-4-106.

R647-4-110 - Reclamation Plan

110.1 Land use.

Wildlife habitat needs to be added to both the current and postmining land uses. (LK)

R647-4-112 - Variance

Variances for any distribution of topsoil (R647-4-111.12) and subsequent revegetation (R647-4-111.13) for the West Ridge Quarry were requested due to no topsoil being salvaged when this quarry was opened several years ago and that the regraded surface is mostly gravel and flagstone. The Division will grant a variance for topsoil redistribution (R647-4-111.12) on the West Ridge Quarry area. However, the Division and USFS feel that there is sufficient fine materials on this area that with the addition of 10 ton per acre of dairy waste mulch (composted manure), an adequate vegetative stand can be established (an alternate substitute growth medium and/or soil amendment(s) may be considered by the regulatory authorities). The requested variance for revegetation (R647-4-111.13) is not granted.

These variances were also requested for the Upper White Quarry. Topsoil was stripped and stored along the perimeter of this area prior to quarrying activities. It is proposed to use the limited topsoil at sufficient depth for vegetation and create 'islands' of vegetation (if evenly distributed, available topsoil

at this site would provide a uniform cover of about one inch for reclamation). This concept has been approved by the Division on other mine sites throughout the State. However, where it has been approved, the majority of the disturbed area is solid rock, with revegetation being unlikely without considerable soil materials (12 inches or greater depth). This situation (solid rock) is not likely to exist at this site. It is the Division's and USFS's opinion that vegetation can be successfully established with the addition to amendments (e.g., composted manure, etc). The Division and USFS will allow existing soils to be spread at a 6" depth along the edges (about 0.4 acres). The remaining area (about 2 acres) should receive 10 ton per acre of composted manure (unless an alternate medium or soil amendment is approved).

The West Ridge Quarry and Upper White Quarry are identified on Map #2. (LK)

R647-4-113 - Surety

The surety estimate included in the submission gave an estimated reclamation cost of \$10,900. The surety estimate did not include sufficient detail to compare with other unit costs. While it is possible that Utah Building Stone may be able to complete the site reclamation for this amount, the Division's reclamation estimate must be based on third party costs. The Division has prepared a revised reclamation estimate based on the information contained in this submission. The Division's estimate is broken down into the various reclamation tasks to be performed on the site disturbances. Acreage or volumes used in the Division's estimate were taken from information contained in the submission. It was assumed that composted manure would be used as a soil substitute for all areas which could not be covered with a six inch layer of soil from the identified soil stockpiles. Utah Building Stone may provide suggested changes to the Division's estimate (tasks, areas, or volumes) with appropriate justifications for these changes. The amount of reclamation surety currently proposed by the Division for this operation is \$24,100 in terms of year 2003 dollars. (AAG)

